



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY HOSTS: *MUSLIM AMERICAN BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES*

First of two Sessions Features "Saffron Dreams" by Shaila Abdullah

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Public Library is proud to announce a Muslim American Book Discussion series. This inaugural year, the focus will be placed on two singular novels: Shaila Abdullah's *Saffron Dreams*, that explores the lived experiences of Muslim women in the U.S., and cultural provocateur Michael Muhammad Knight's *The Taqwacores*, that has inspired an underground Islamic punk music genre. Dr. Ghada Osman, an Islamic and Arabic Studies professor at San Diego State University, will facilitate the discussions, which take place at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, September 14 and October 5, 2011 respectively in the Wangenheim Rare Book Room on the 3rd floor of the Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego.

Saffron Dreams is a moving, sensitive and eye-opening novel about Arissa Ilahi, a young Pakistani woman living in New York City, who loses her husband in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Towers. While Arissa grieves, an unplanned pregnancy and the discovery of a manuscript by her late husband help her to reconnect with life.

The Muslim American Book Discussion is part of an ongoing *American Book Discussion* series. The meetings allow a brief exploration of literary works that demonstrate our shared experiences; the importance of such works is evident. Look for the discussions to continue throughout the year and to include literature about and by American Indians, Asians and Pacific Islanders, women and still others who have created this history of America.

Read the book and take advantage of this unique opportunity to discuss the work with a scholar. Copies are available throughout the San Diego Public Library system; card-holders may visit any of our facilities or place "holds" on the titles online with their library account and PIN to have them sent to any San Diego Public Library location.

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Press Release – Muslim American Book: Saffron Dreams

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

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